



Martin County
Port Salerno
Neighborhood Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Port Salerno Civic Center
4950 Anchor Avenue
Port Salerno, FL

Thursday, February 13, 2025

PRESENT

Position	Name	Term Expiration
Chairperson	Jaime Rolle Taylor	February 20, 2025
Vice Chair	Edward Olsen Jr.	September 10, 2025
Members	Karen Worden	January 28, 2027
	Ellen Asselin	January 28, 2027
	Cathy Harvey	February 20, 2025
	Leonard Lee	September 10, 2028
	Jim Peck	September 10, 2028
	Casey Cass	February 20, 2025

ABSENT

Position	Name	Term Expiration
Member	Christina Ardigo	September 10, 2025

STAFF PRESENT

Position	Name
CRA Program Manager	Joy Puerta
CRA Director	Susan Kores
Assistant County Attorney	Frank Moehrle
District 4 Commissioner	Sarah Heard

* Indicates a motion ** Indicates a vote *** For the record comment

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Agenda Item: 25-0637 Draft Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2024 MOTION

* E. Olsen motioned to approve the proposed December 12, 2024; meeting minutes as presented.

** C. Cass seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY.

COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC

- Laronda Grey - She is with the Salerno CDC. She thanked individuals, organizations and county staff for all of their support after hurricane Milton. We need to get back on track with sewer. The Bahamian Festival is scheduled for October 4. She hopes that will not conflict with construction of New Monrovia Park.
- J. Rolle – Regarding sewer, please take Mr. Keathley’s recommendation to write or call your legislators to express support for the grant. The link to find them is <https://www.martin.florida.us/contact>. Please contact your representatives and let others know to do the same.
- Margaret Mahoney – If we are communicating with our public representatives, it would be helpful to have an information sheet to be more specific with the requests. We definitely need a crosswalk for the new Gilberts coffee. Traffic is going very fast, and people are trying to parallel park. Maybe we can get the crosswalks with signs and lights like they have in Golden Gate.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 25-0638 – Alternative Compliance – 3805 SE Lincoln Street

Joy Puerta, CRA Program Manager, provided a presentation for the above. The applicant and his daughter also addressed the committee. Discussion from the committee ensued.

- C. Cass – How much weight does our recommendation have to the Growth Management Director?
- G. Ehrler – I hope you recommend this alternative compliance request.

MOTION

- * C. Cass motioned to approve the alternative compliance request.
- ** B. Olsen seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item: 25-0639 – FY2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Joy Puerta, CRA Program Manager, provided a presentation on the Port Salerno CIP, which included an explanation of what the CIP is, how TIF works, current projects, potential projects and went through each of the staff’s funding recommendations.

- C. Cass – I don’t remember SE Georges Way in the Park Drive project. We agreed to put money into septic to sewer. Part of my concern is that we want to improve New Monrovia. Why is it so difficult for us to get sewer. He asked for the specific number for the septic to sewer project. What are the chances that the grant will happen?
- J. Puerta - I have meeting minutes and a slide from a previous CIP that shows SE Georges Way was approved to be in the project.
The other committee members present also confirmed that they approved it.
- S. Kores – There is no way for us to know if the grant will come through or not. Utilities is the Department that is handling that. There are many variables that affect any grant, how much money is there to begin with, how many others have applied, how much have they applied for, do they have a greater need, etc. It is the federal government and its agencies that will make that determination, we don’t have any control over what the decision is or the timing of that decision.
- M. Warden – Can we get Mr. Repetti back to talk to us about Park Drive and the whole project on the peninsula?
- S. Kores – We will invite Utilities and Public Works to the next meeting.

- E. Asselin – This is sewer for all of Port Salerno, not just New Monrovia. Are we not included?
- J. Puerta – Martin County Capital Projects has three sets of project plans for the area. Port Salerno North (north of Salerno), Port Salerno South (between Salerno Rd and Cove Rd) and New Monrovia (south of Cove Rd).
- B. Olsen - I feel like staff recommendations are really in line with New Monrovia improvements and the improvements already approved and I fully support staff's recommendations.
- T. Anderson – I will bring some perspective and clarity and tell you exactly what the situation is. He talked about the history of New Monrovia and the years of public neglect of infrastructure that should have been installed years ago. People don't have the money for the sewer.
- C. Smith – We had to pay for the roads in Dixie Park, give us paved roads in New Monrovia. She would like to revisit Habitat for Humanity and the money they had for roof repair. We heard about the sewer grant in 2024, let's get this done.
- G. Ehrler – I'd like to look at the Dixie Park slide again. Are we looking for 6-foot sidewalks? This is a public ROW, correct? And staff recommend \$100,000 towards that project?
- J. Puerta – Yes.
- S. English – I am confused, when did the sewer project become three projects? MC said the project will be done for the whole area and our cost will be \$5,000 each. What happened to that?
- J. Puerta – That's what the plans show.
- J. Rolle – The pipes that are there are for other parts of the county. We can't tap into what is there, and those are at capacity.
- C. Cass – Infrastructure Partnerships – please describe the \$600,000.
- J. Puerta – That is the funding for the Park Drive Improvements, already approved, added there so that we can be sure to continue to have \$4 million for sewer when we need it.

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 25-0640 – PROJECT UPDATES

J. Puerta, Community Development Program Manager, updated the community on the following projects: unpaved roadways, New Monrovia lighting, New Monrovia Park, Dixie Highway crosswalks, New Monrovia neighborhood improvements and speed control.

Miscellaneous news: The downed electric pole is finally removed. Mooring field facility is going up quickly, it already has walls. The call for artists for the mosaic have gone out. We did include pictures of the New Monrovia signage and the Request for Service tips in the Community Pulse as requested and there is a quick public art survey we invite you to do.

COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC

- M. Mahoney – I am not satisfied about what I heard about crosswalks. I'm going out there to stripe it myself!
- J. Puerta – We are going to ask Public Works to do that.
- C. Smith – The project says it's New Monrovia/Port Salerno. F. Graham called to see if I still had the paper that they gave out at IRSC. Different sections are new to me. I agree with Tony Anderson that things have just been washed away. I stopped coming to the NAC because nothing was happening on our side. We are all Port Salerno. When I speak, I represent all of Port Salerno, not just New Monrovia.
- S. English – Two dead pine trees on Park Drive have to come out now.

- B. Olsen – They are getting taken care of.

2. MEMBERS

- C. Cass – great presentation tonight
- E. Asselin – She appreciates Steve bringing up the sewer information. We were told it was one project and now its being divided. Have you seen the marine control building at Sandsprit Park and she doesn't understand the mooring field building.
- B. Olsen – Great presentation
- L. Lee - Great presentation and thanks for getting back to me and answering my question.
- J. Rolle – Keep the unpaved road line item.
- E. Asselin – Are they making Dixie Highway four lanes?
- M. Warden – I talked with the Sheriff's Office about Westfield Street and now there are Mooring people walking up and down the street all the time. We want a speed measurement trailer to do a speed study. He said he will get one there.
- C. Cass – I thank all that came out. Our commissioner was trying to stack the NAC. She came here today probably because all we do is scream that she never comes. She wants to get rid of the CRA Board so please weigh in and show up to support the community. I got involved to support the community and stand up for the collective. Don't get railroaded by the commissioners or other policies.
- J. Rolle – I do appreciate everyone showing, it is important. Let's get the emails and calls going to the Legislature to get the grant.

3. STAFF

ADJOURN – Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Recorded and prepared by:

Susan Kores, CRA Director

Date

Jaime Rolle Taylor, Chair

Date

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